IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Masato HIGUCHI et al.

Serial No.: Currently unknown

Filing Date: Concurrently herewith

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING PIEZOELECTRIC COMPONENT AND PIEZOELECTRIC COMPONENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, and in recognition of their duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office relevant information known to be material to patentability, Applicants herewith submit copies of the prior art listed on the attached Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449), including an English abstract. The relevance of WO97/02596 is set forth in the originally filed specification of the present application

The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.

Information Disclosure Statement December 5, 2003 Page 2 of 2

Applicants respectfully request that the disclosed references be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 5, 2003

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

1

36856.1178

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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2(if known)} | Publication Date MM -YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | | | | | |
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file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.

¹ Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Strandard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Abstract is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to